

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 139890

DISTO

FOLLOWING SENT OTTAWA INFO NEW DELHI IAEA VIENNA ISLAMABAD
FROM SECSTATE WASHDC 28 JUN 74:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 139890

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, IN, CA

SUBJECT: CALL BY CANADIAN AMBASSADOR REGARDING INDIAN
NUCLEAR EXPLOSION

SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR CADIEUX CAME IN TO REVIEW MATTERS
RELATING TO THE INDIAN NUCLEAR EXPLOSION WITH NEA DEPUTY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY SOBER JUNE 26. CADIEUX SAID CANADIANS
UPSET BY SUGGESTION IN SOME US STATEMENTS OF NEGLIGENCE BY
CANADA IN SAFEGUARD ARRANGEMENTS WITH INDIA. SOBER STRESSED
THIS NOT OUR INTENT IN ANY WAY. SOBER SAID OUR REVIEW OF
IMPLICATIONS OF NUCLEAR ISSUE CONTINUING BUT WE ALREADY HAD
ACTED TO SEEK EXPLICIT CONFIRMATION FROM INDIA THAT NOTHING
PROVIDED TARAPUR WOULD BE USED IN PNE'S. CADIEUX STRESSED
CANADIAN INTEREST IN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WHEN REVIEW COMPLETE.
END SUMMARY.

1. CADIEUX EXPLAINED THAT CANADIANS WERE UPSET BY SUG-
GESTION IN STATEMENTS BY AMERICAN OFFICIALS THAT CANADA
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HAD BEEN LAX IN NOT OBTAINING TIGHTER SAFEGUARDS FROM INDIA ON THE CIRUS REACTOR. THIS HAD BEEN DISCUSSED WITH THE SECRETARY IN OTTAWA AND THE CANADIANS HOPED THE USG WOULD FIND AN APPROPRIATE TIME TO CLEAR UP ANY MISAPPREHENSIONS. THE NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS CANADA MADE WITH INDIA REFLECTED THE EXISTING STATE OF THE ART ON SAFEGUARD ARRANGEMENTS IN THE MID 1950'S, AND WERE AS GOOD AS THE US OBTAINED AT THE TIME.

2. SOBER SAID HE HAD PERSONALLY ALREADYMADE THIS VERY POINT DURING A PRESS BACKGROUNDER TWO WEEKS AGO TN CONNECTION WITH US PLANS TO PROVIDE NUCLEAR REACTOR TO EGYPT. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE USG, IN NO WAY, INTENDED TO CRITICIZE CANADA. THE SECRETARY HAD STRESSED THIS DURING THE DISCUSSIONS WITH CANADIAN OFFICIALS IN OTTAWA. IN RECENT NUCLEAR HEARINGS ON THE HILL, WHICH PROBED DEEPLY INTO THE QUESTION OF SAFEGUARDS AND RELATED ASSURANCES ON REACTORS, THERE WAS NEVER ANY IMPLICATION OR SUGGESTION THAT CANADA WAS LAX IN ITS ARRANGEMENTS WITH INDIA. AMBASSADOR CADIEUX SAID HE WAS GLAD TO HEAR THIS, AS THIS WAS A SENSITIVE ISSUE IN CANADA GIVEN THE CURRENT ELECTION CAMPAIGN. HE REITERATED HIS HOPE THAT WE WOULD FIND FURTHER OCCASION TO EMPHASIZE THE POINT. HE LEFT AN AIDE MEMOIRE ELABORATING THE HISTORY OF CANADIAN SAFEGUARD ARRANGEMENTS. (TEXT BY SEPTEL)

3. WITH REGARD TO OUR CONSIDERATION OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE INDIAN TEST, MR. SOBER EXPLAINED THAT WE HAVE HAD MAJOR STUDIES UNDER WAY, FOCUSING ON INDIA AND ON BROADER NON-PROLIFERATION ISSUES. BECAUSE OF PREOCCUPATION ON OTHER MATTERS, SENIOR-MOST OFFICIALS HAD NOT YET HAD A CHANCE TO FOCUS ON THESE. THE AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZED CANADA'S INTEREST IN OUR VIEWS. FOR ITS PART, CANADA WILL HAVE TO REVIEW ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH INDIA IN A MOST FUNDAMENTAL WAY. IF NOTHING WAS DONE TO KEEP OTHERS FROM FOLLOWING THE INDIAN EXAMPLE OR TO KEEP INDIA ON A "PEACEFUL" NUCLEAR PATH, THE WHOLE CANADIAN ATTITUDE TOWARD FOREIGN ASSISTANCE COULD BE AFFECTED, AS WELL AS ITS RELATIONSHIP TO INDIA. SOBER NOTED THAT BECAUSE OF THE TEST THERE HAD BEEN AN EXTREMELY SHARP REACTION IN CONGRESS TO OUR PROPOSAL TO RESUME AID TO INDIA. IT WAS AT BEST QUESTIONABLE WHETHER THIS WOULD

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PROVE POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF CONGRESSIONAL ATTITUDES.

4. SOBER WANTED TO ADVISE THE CANADIANS OF SOME SPECIFIC STEPS WE HAD TAKEN ALTHOUGH WE COULD NOT AT THIS TIME GO INTO THE DETAILS OF OUR STUDIES:

A) AT THE JUNE 12 IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING WE

HAD STRONGLY REAFFIRMED OUR VIEW THAT SO-CALLED PNE'S ARE NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE TERMS UNDER WHICH THE US PROVIDES NUCLEAR COOPERATION. IN LIGHT OF THE INDIAN TEST, WE FELT IT WAS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO CLARIFY THIS POINT. SOBER GAVE THE AMBASSADOR A COPY OF AMBASSADOR TAPE'S JUNE 12 IAEA STATEMENT.

B) WE WERE ALSO TAKING CONCRETE STEPS TO CLEAR UP THE IMPRECISION REGARDING THE PNE QUESTION IN OUR SAFEGUARD ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TARAPUR REACTORS, FOR WHICH WE WERE SUPPLYING ENRICHED URANIUM FUEL. LAST WEEK ACTING SECRETARY SISCO ADVISED THE INDIANS WE WERE PERMITTING THE FIRST OF A NEW SERIES OF FUEL SHIPMENTS TO GO FORWARD BUT THAT FUTURE SHIPMENTS WOULD DEPEND ON RECEIPT OF EXPLICIT CONFIRMATION FROM INDIA THAT NO US SUPPLIED MATERIAL WOULD BE USED IN PNE'S.

C) PENDING COMPLETION OF OUR REVIEW, THE US WAS SUSPENDING ASSIGNMENT ON TRAINING OF INDIAN NATIONALS TO AEC FACILITIES.

D) WE WERE ALSO LOOKING AT OTHER MATTERS, IN PARTICULAR THE SITUATION IN PAKISTAN WHERE CANADA HAD PROVIDED THE KANUPP REACTOR WHILE WE WERE SUPPLYING HEAVY WATER AND ALSO SOME FUEL. THE US HAS NO OVERALL AGREEMENT WITH PAKISTAN BUT IS PROVIDING MATERIAL THROUGH IAEA UNDER IAEA SAFEGUARDS. WE WERE THINKING ABOUT CLEARING UP ANY AMBIGUITY THAT MAY EXIST WITH REGARD TO THE PNE QUESTION. WE WERE NOT CLEAR WHAT ARRANGEMENTS CANADA HAD AND WOULD APPRECIATE THEIR ADVISING US.

5. THE AMBASSADOR EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR SOBER'S FILL IN AND EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE CANADA ATTACHED TO FURTHER DISCUSSION WHEN THE US HAD COMPLETED ITS REVIEW.
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SOBER STRESSED THAT WE SHARED THIS VIEW, NOTING THE VERY EXTENSIVE AND HELPFUL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE US AND CANADA IN THE NON-PROLIFERATION FIELD.

6. CADIEUX ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER REPORTS CANADIANS WERE GETTING ABOUT POSSIBLE INDIAN WILLINGNESS TO SHARE PNE KNOW HOW WITH OTHER NON-NUCLEARS AND WOULD APPRECIATE KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH US ON OUR EVALUATION OF THAT POTENTIAL PROBLEM. SISCO UNQUOTE SISCO

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